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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/53/545)*]

53/19. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission of Observers, the latest of which was resolution 1167 (1998) of 14 May 1998,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, by which the Council authorized the Secretary-General to expand the size of the Mission of Observers,

Recalling further its resolution 49/240 of 31 March 1995 on the financing of the Mission of Observers and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 52/229 B of 26 June 1998,

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[1] A/52/772/Add.2.

[2] A/53/474.

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission of Observers are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission of Observers, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission of Observers,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission of Observers with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan as at 15 October 1998, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 9.2 million United States dollars, representing some 22 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission of Observers to the period ending 31 October 1998, notes that some 16 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. *Urges* all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission of Observers in full and on time;

5. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission of Observers is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to employ locally recruited staff for the Mission of Observers against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

8. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, for the maintenance of the Mission of Observers, for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, the amount of 11,984,880 dollars gross (11,128,880 dollars net), in addition to the initial amount of 8,015,120 dollars gross (7,587,120 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 October 1998, inclusive of an amount of 415,120 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999, already appropriated and assessed under the terms of its resolution 52/229 B;

9. *Decides also*, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 8,015,120 dollars gross (7,587,120 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of resolution 52/229 B, to apportion the additional amount of 11,984,880 dollars gross (11,128,880 dollars net) for the period from 1 November 1998 to 30 June 1999 among Member States, at a monthly rate of 1,498,110 dollars gross (1,391,110 dollars net), in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1998 and 1999, as set out in its resolution 52/215 A of 22 December 1997, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission of Observers beyond 15 November 1998;

10. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the additional estimated staff assessment income of 856,000 dollars approved for the period from 1 November 1998 to 30 June 1999;

11. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission of Observers in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

12. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-third session the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan".

50th plenary meeting
2 November 1998